

AMENDMENT AFTER ALLOWANCE  
UNDER 37 CFR 1.312  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 2155

Amendments to the Claims

Kindly cancel renumbered claims 11-29 without prejudice. All pending claims (as renumbered by the Examiner in the Notice of Allowability) are reproduced below.

1. (Previously Presented) A method of managing processing groups of a shared nothing distributed computing environment, said method comprising:

requesting via a request by a prospective member to join a processing group of a shared nothing distributed computing environment, said request including a sequence number indicating a version of the processing group, wherein the shared nothing distributed computing environment is an environment with a particular system architecture wherein only one processing node is connected to a given disk;

determining whether the prospective member can join the processing group, said determining employing the sequence number, wherein the determining comprises comparing by said prospective member the sequence number in the request with a current group sequence number to determine if the join of the prospective member to the processing group should continue;

joining the processing group by the prospective member, in response at least in part to the determining indicating that the prospective member can join the processing group; and

wherein the joining comprises automatically reinitializing state of the prospective member responsive to the comparing indicating that the sequence number in the request is less than the current group sequence number, the reinitializing making a state of the prospective member consistent with a state of an existing member of the processing group, and thereafter, proceeding with the joining by the prospective member.

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2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising updating state associated with the processing group, in response to the request, said updating providing the current group sequence number.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising quiescing activity that may affect the state prior to said updating.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the determining specifies that the join should continue if the compare indicates that the sequence number in the request is less than the current group sequence number, otherwise the join should not continue.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining an activity status of the processing group prior to the reinitializing, wherein the reinitializing is performed if the processing group is active.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the joining further comprises updating the current group sequence number.

7. (Previously Presented) A method of managing processing groups of a shared nothing distributed computing environment, said method comprising:

joining a prospective member to an inactive processing group of a shared nothing distributed computing environment, wherein the shared nothing distributed computing environment is an environment with a particular system architecture wherein only one processing node is connected to a given disk;

comparing a sequence number of the processing group with a sequence number of the prospective member;

updating the sequence number of the processing group, in response to the comparing indicating a particular difference;

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determining whether a quorum of members has joined the processing group;

setting the sequence number of the processing group, in response to the determining indicating a quorum of members has joined the processing group;

initiating activation of the processing group, in response to the setting; and

wherein the initiating activation comprises:

obtaining by a member of the processing group having a sequence number lower than the sequence number of the processing group a copy of group state associated with the sequence number of the processing group; and

reinitializing the member using the copy of group state.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein activation of the processing group comprises updating the sequence number of the processing group.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the updating of the sequence number of the processing group comprises updating the sequence number, in response to there being a majority of members in the processing group.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein a member comprises a distributed synchronous transaction system.

11-29. (Canceled).

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